NEWS RELEASE

OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS

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For Immediate Release

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WOMAN IS SENTENCED FOR HER INVOLVEMENT IN A FRANKLIN COUNTY DRUG CONSPIRACY

Randy G. Massey, Acting United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, today announced **KESHA A. McCAY**, age 25, of Hurst, Illinois was sentenced on two counts of an indictment for Conspiracy to Manufacture and Possess with Intent to Distribute over 500 Grams of Methamphetamine, and Possession of Products used for the Production of Methamphetamine. The sentencing took place in United States District Court at Benton, Illinois, on December 21, 2006.

McCAY entered a plea of guilty to one count which alleged her involvement in a conspiracy to manufacture and possess with intent to distribute over 500 grams of a mixture and substance containing methamphetamine between November 2001, and May 2005, in Jackson, Franklin and Williamson Counties. She was sentenced to 240 months, to be served concurrently, on each count on December 21, 2006. Following her incarceration, she will serve a 10-year term of supervised release.

According to the factual basis, the defendant was responsible for obtaining and then supplying pseudoephedrine pills which were then used by her co-conspirators to manufacture methamphetamine in Franklin and Williamson Counties. She also assisted in the distribution of the methamphetamine after it was manufactured in those counties.

Investigation into the case was handled by the COMIT Drug Task Force, the Southern Illinois Enforcement Group, the Southern Illinois Drug Task Force, Illinois State Police Methamphetamine Response Team, the United States Drug Enforcement Administration and the Sheriff's Departments of Jackson, Williamson and Franklin Counties.

The case was prosecuted by Assistant United States Attorney Michael C. Carr.